

# Indiana's Response to Intervention Academy



## ***Family, School, and Community Partnerships: Learning from Each Other***

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October 22, 2008

Supported by a grant through the Indiana Department of Education and offered through the Collaborative Problem Solving Project at the Blumberg Center at Indiana State University

# *What are family, school, and community partnerships?*

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Family, school and community partnerships are **collaborative relationships and activities** that involve the influences and resources in students' lives to **promote success** and provide **benefit to all partners.**

# Research Indicates...

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- Students with involved parents
  - Earn higher grades, better test scores, more credits
  - Are more likely to complete school and attend post-secondary education
  - Attend school regularly
  - Have better social skills, behavior, and adapt well to school

Henderson, A. T. & Mapp, K (2002). *A New Wave of Evidence: The Impact of School, Family, and Community Connections on Student Achievement*

# Research Indicates...

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- Partnerships with the community can
  - Create new learning opportunities and networks of support for students and schools
  - Improve school climate and create a more open school culture
  - Increase resources available to schools, the community and families

Southwest Educational Development Laboratory. (2001). *Emerging Issues in School, Family, & Community Connections: Annual Synthesis*

# What are characteristics of effective partnerships?

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- ❑ Strategy and collaborative planning
- ❑ Linking to student learning
- ❑ Advocacy and shared power
- ❑ Variety of roles and activities
- ❑ Two-way communication
- ❑ Reciprocal relationships
- ❑ Professional development for school staff
- ❑ Trust and respect
- ❑ Belief in ability of family and community to contribute

# Common Barriers to Success

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- ❑ Unsystematic approach to developing partnerships
- ❑ School personnel unprepared and not supported to work with families and community partners
- ❑ Partnership activities designed and implemented only by school personnel
- ❑ Partnership activities designed for a “generic” family and community

# Let's Share...

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- ❑ How have you addressed these barriers?
  - Strategy for Partnerships
  - Supporting School Personnel to Form Partnerships
  - Family and Community Involvement in Partnerships Planning and Activities
  - Partnership Activities for YOUR Families and Community
- ❑ What challenges do you still face?
- ❑ Any ideas for each other?

# EVSC's School Community Council

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- ❑ Began with Cedar Hall Elementary School
  - Students coming unprepared to learn
  - 1989 – grant for afterschool programs
- ❑ Success lead to another grant in 1994
  - School Site Council formed
    - ❑ Community, businesses, parents, churches, and school
  - Full Service School Model adopted by council
    - ❑ Family literacy, health services, social services, parent involvement, after-school and summer programs, curriculum based on Indiana's standards

Diehl, D., Gray, C., O'Connor, G. (2005) *The School Community Council: Creating an environment for student success*. New Directions for Youth Development (107). 65-72.



# EVSC School Community Council

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## □ Cedar Hall Results

- Neighborhood becomes an active association working with the school

- “Decreased crime rates and cleaner, friendlier, and healthier environment”

- Improved grades, discipline, and physical and dental health of neighborhood children

## □ Superintendent supports expansion of the model throughout the district

## □ School Community Council is formed

Diehl, D., Gray, C., O'Connor, G. (2005) *The School Community Council: Creating an environment for student success*. New Directions for Youth Development (107). 65-72.

# Tools and Resources from Today

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- ❑ Ideas from each other
- ❑ *Community and Family Engagement: Principals Share What Works*
- ❑ *The School Community Council: Creating an environment for student success*
- ❑ List of additional resources
- ❑ Julie Havill-Weems [jhavill@indiana.edu](mailto:jhavill@indiana.edu)